

ABSTRACT

A system and method for use in a data network that effects decoupling of the presentation layer and the business layer, while enhancing the flexibility and utility of both. A new framework is provided that decouples the presentation and business layers by providing a 5 software protocol that allows the necessary details of the communication between the two layers to be expressed unambiguously, while avoiding the common tendency to include unnecessary details, such as the manner in which the data and or functions are to be presented to the user. In this manner, the flexibility both in terms of the manner in which the displays may evolve over time and the degree to which new business functions may be added to the business layer greatly 10 increases.